

Human Services Funding Committee / Community Development Committee (CDC)
February 4, 2009

Committee Members Attending: Jana McClure, Mary Jane Laus, Claude Tellier, Lewis Rudolph, Paulette Brooks

Town Staff: Roy Rosenblatt

Absent Committee Members: Isaac BenEzra

The Wednesday, February 4, 2009 Community Development Committee met at the Garrabrants Room in the Bangs Center beginning at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Rosenblatt explained the history of Amherst's Community Development Block Grant Funding and criteria based on population and low or moderate income. The January 21, 2009 public hearing provided the committee with positive community input for the Director's recommendation to: provide funding for the purchase of property (s) for homeless individuals; Continuation of childcare tuition assistance program; Funding for Big Brother, Big Sister's site-based mentoring program, Family Outreach of Amherst emergency Assistance fund; Amherst Survival Center's Family Night. Mr. Rosenblatt discussed the possible five target areas: West Pomeroy Lane and Brook, East Amherst and Main Street, Downtown going west, North Amherst, and Route 9.

After discussion, Paulette Brooks made a motion: "If and when the CDBG mini-entitlement status is withdrawn and the State no longer funds Human Service activities, the Community Development Committee will bring the request for funding back to Town Meeting." Mary Jane Laus seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Claude Tellier made the motion: "to submit the following requests in the Town's 2009 CDBG application: for Human Services - the childcare tuition assistance program, the Big Brother Big Sisters site-based mentoring Program, the Family Outreach of Amherst's Emergency Assistance Fund, the Amherst Survival Center's Family Night, and Capital Funds of \$450,000 to purchase property to house homeless persons." Jana McClure seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The Community Development Committee will need to meet together with the Committee on Homelessness. Next meeting of the Community Development Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2009 at the Bangs Center beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paulette Brooks